

**Olive-Harvey College
Transportation, Distribution, & Logistics Center
Chicago, Illinois
CDB Project Number 810-018-006
Thursday, April 4, 2019
10:00 a.m.**

Fine Arts Review Committee Meeting Minutes

Fine Arts Review Committee Members

Valerie King, Illinois Arts Council
Douglas Stapleton, Illinois State Museum
David Yandel, FGM Architects
Kevin Stewart, Olive-Harvey College

Other Attendees

Latonya Armstrong, City College of Chicago
Amanda Gettes, City College of Chicago
Edgar Casillas, City Colleges of Chicago
Alexa Heinrich, City Colleges of Chicago
Linda Norbut Suits, Capital Development Board

- The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. when Linda Norbut Suits began passing around the sign-in sheet. The meeting began with introductions.
- Everyone in attendance then received a score sheet and agenda. Ms. Suits explained score sheets are for the convenience of the Fine Arts Review Committee (FARC) members and are not collected at the end of the process. The selection of the winning design should be based upon aesthetic quality, suitability and relevance, skill, and past performance.
- Ms. Suits then explained that the AIA legislation required the Committee's selection to be ratified by the Chair of the Illinois Arts Council Agency. At the end of the meeting, the FARC members would sign a memorandum memorializing its selection and Ms. Suits would then forward it to the Arts Council. After she received the concurrence back, she then contacts the artists with the results and places the winner under contract.
- A schedule update was given. Substantial completion is scheduled for April 5, 2019 with occupancy occurring in mid-June.

- Before bringing in the first artist, Ms. Suits explained that the Committee members could ask as many questions as necessary to ensure that they understood both the concept and the artist's ability to create the artwork.
- Ms. Suits then brought in artist Jason Watts and introductions were made.
- In his untitled proposal Mr. Watts stated that "the skylight atrium corridor is a great space to tell a story about Olive Harvey College. The artwork is designed to be timeless, but with a narrative for faculty, students, prospective students and visitors." The stories he proposes are: movement and connection, community, foundation, and transportation.
- The artwork would consist of large-scale vinyl prints made from high-resolution scans of original artwork Mr. Watts would paint for the project. Once installed on the wall, key areas of the vinyl prints would be overpainted to add depth and originality to the paintings. Finally, colorful half-inch thick acrylic panels would be installed over the vinyl prints to add sparkle, translucency, and depth.
- He proposed a summer installation.
- The Committee asked questions including whether Mr. Watts was open to adjusting the design with suggestions from the College and he is. When asked about the permanence of the vinyl canvas he stated that it is UV treated and lightfast.
- After a brief discussion, Ms. Suits brought in Mr. Davis McCarty and introductions were made.
- Mr. Davis started his presentation by explaining his background and showing images of his past artwork. He then introduced his proposal *Taking Flight*.
- "The sculpture floats elegantly overhead, like a bird wing and pulls the viewers eye upwards." The dichroic film would reflect different colors of light when viewed from different directions. Because of the changing light coming through the skylights, the reflections would change throughout the day and through the seasons.
- It would be fabricated from impact modified dichroic plexiglass. Each dichroic plexiglass fin would be suspended from the ceiling with aircraft cable and affixed to the wall with an aluminum bracket. After a question Mr. Davis said that the piece would weigh between 1750-3400 pounds depending upon the thickness of the acrylic used.
- The only maintenance needs would be dusting with a microfiber cloth when necessary.

- Mr. Davis finished his presentation, the Committee thanked him for his time, and Mr. Davis departed.
- The Committee adjourned at 12:15 p.m. for lunch and a quick tour of the artwork area in the TDL building.
- The Committee reconvened at 1:00 p.m.
- Ms. Suits brought in artist BJ Krivanek and introductions were made.
- Mr. Krivanek began his presentation by explaining his objectives when making public art, his background, and showed examples of his previous work.
- He then presented *Oscillations*, as system of pivoting mechanical aluminum arms with magnets. The arms can be triggered to oscillate along the wall. The mounting plates for the piece will also feature groupings of words that relate to the TDL and its work. The word groupings would be created through consultation with TDL stakeholders.
- The Committee asked if the piece could only be activated by pulling a lever or if sensors could be used. Mr. Krivanek stated that sensors could be used as well.
- Mr. Krivanek completed his presentation, the Committee thanked him for his time, and Mr. Krivanek departed.
- Ms. Suits brought in artist Barbara Cooper and introductions were made.
- Ms. Cooper started her presentation by explaining her background and showing previous projects.
- She then presented *Conveyor*. “In the two serpentine forms, *Conveyor* is shallow in profile. The central vortex of the piece, however, goes both deep and broad, referencing the depth and breadth that students can achieve in their studies at the program. The vortex represents the possibility that one of the cells in the serpentine form has exploded into something much larger and complex. The materials of perforated stainless-steel sheeting riveted together with a nod toward the industrial are juxtaposed with the warmth of the flowing forms of laminated oak veneer. Yet the steel has been made into irregularly shaped cellular forms. These cells suggest being funneled through a passageway much as packages progress along on a conveyor belt.”
- When asked about her timeline, Ms. Cooper stated that fabrication would take about six months with about two months of lead time needed for material acquisition.
- When asked about the height of the piece in the space she stated that it could be determined at the time of installation as she has done with previous work.

- Ms. Cooper completed her presentation, the Committee thanked her for her time, and she departed.
- The Committee was quite impressed with the quality of all four proposals. They then brought out the maquettes and began discussing the merits of each proposal.
- After extensive and wide-ranging discussions, the Committee could not come to a consensus and select an artist for the commission.
- Ms. Suits stated that this had never happened in a FARC meeting before and she would have to think about the issues involved to decide on the next steps for the Committee to take. She said she would reach out to the Committee when she had organized the issues, reviewed the relevant statutes and policies, and decided on the next steps.
- The meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.